



# INDEPENDENT LIVING Self-Sufficiency Program

## What the Independent Living (IL) Program can do for you

### MEDICAL COVERAGE

Medical coverage is provided until the last day of the month when you turn 26. Limited vision and dental are included with your coverage until age 21.

- You must have been in Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF), Kansas Department of Corrections-Juvenile Services (KDOC-JS) or Tribal Authority care at age 18.
- You must live in Kansas.
- Apply through the KanCare Clearinghouse by completing the Application for Families and Children available at [www.kancare.ks.gov](http://www.kancare.ks.gov).

### ADDITIONAL SERVICES

You may be eligible for an allowance for limited rent assistance, start-up household goods and car repair assistance. Eligibility lasts until you turn 21.

### INDEPENDENT LIVING SUBSIDY

Independent Living Subsidy provides monthly assistance to help with living expenses, based upon need. Eligibility lasts until you turn 21.

- You must have aged out of DCF custody, KDOC-JS or Tribal Authority from an eligible placement at age 18.
- You must be a Kansas resident.
- Marital status does not impact eligibility for subsidy.
- You must be financially responsible for maintenance and expenses.
- Living alone, with a roommate(s) or in a family setting are all acceptable.
- A plan to obtain a high school diploma, GED or full-time employment is required.

### BASIC CHAFEE

Chafee funds are available to help former foster youth achieve self-sufficiency. Basic Chafee can be utilized for:

- supporting high school graduation
- GED completion
- daily living
- budgeting
- money management
- transportation
- clothing

## EDUCATION & TRAINING VOUCHER (ETV)

Education & Training Voucher (ETV) funds are available to assist with post-secondary education completion. These funds can assist with attending a vocational school, community college or university.

- You must be a high school graduate or have obtained a GED.
- You must have aged out of DCF custody, KDOC-JS or Tribal Authority from an eligible placement on or after your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, left an eligible placement to a permanent order of guardianship or custodianship on or after your 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, or been adopted from an eligible placement on or after your 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- You may also be eligible if you were in an eligible placement for any length of time after you turned 14. Youth who left a foster care placement subject to permanent custodianship or guardianship or who were adopted before the youth's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday are not eligible for ETV.
- You may participate in the ETV program for a maximum of five years. Eligibility for ETV ends when you turn 26.

## TUITION WAIVER

The Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance Act (Tuition Waiver) is administered through DCF. Tuition and fees are waived at select schools and colleges. The list of eligible post-secondary institutions can be found at [www.kansasregents.org](http://www.kansasregents.org).

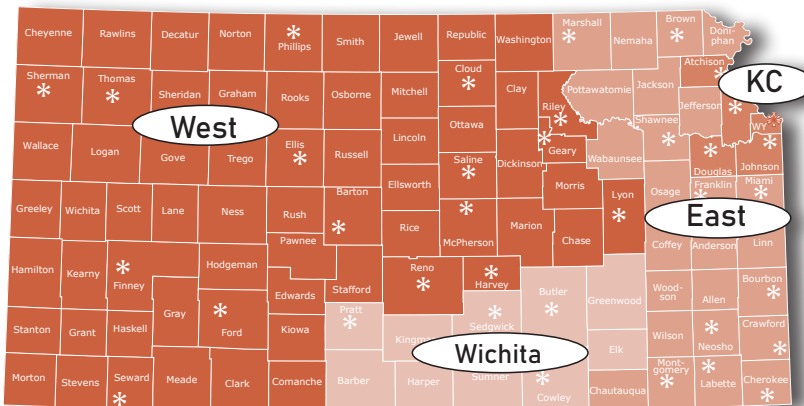
- You must be in/have been in DCF custody, in a foster care placement at age 18, adopted at/after age 16 or released from a foster care placement to a guardianship at/after age 16.
- You may also be eligible if you were released from foster care custody before age 18 and graduated from high school or obtained your GED while in DCF custody and an out-of-home placement.

### HOW TO APPLY

Apply through the registrar's office at your post-secondary institution. Ask to fill out the application for the Foster Child Education Assistance Program.

*Not all youth will be eligible for all IL program services. Contact your IL Coordinator to determine your eligibility. Awards are subject to available funding.*

## Independent Living Regional Contact



\* DCF Service Center



- West DCF.WestIL@ks.gov
- Wichita DCF.WichitaIL@ks.gov
- East DCF.EastIL@ks.gov
- KC DCF.KansasCityIL@ks.gov

Contact 785-296-4653 or  
go to <http://IL.dcf.ks.gov>.